THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pilot project is under operation since February, 2002 with Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) at Whitefield, Bangalore. In this direction a step further has been taken to have a Memorandum of Understanding with CWC for the development of warehousing complexes at different railhead terminals.

(c) Setting up of warehousing complexes is on the basis of leasing terms and revenue sharing.

Security arrangements at railway stations in Mumbai

3844. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways propose to provide special security arrangements at the local railway stations in Mumbai in view of the spurt of terrorist violence in the local trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the details of present security arrangements at the local railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) "Policing" being a State subject, prevention and detection of crime on Railways including running trains, is the constitutional responsibility of the State Governments. The cases of crime on Railways are reported to, registered and investigated by the Government Railway Police (GRP).

Though the responsibility to curb crime on Railways lie with the State Governments, the Railways have taken the following steps to supplement the efforts of the State Governments :

1. Anti-social elements are being removed from Railway premises and trains by RPF.
2. Coach Attendants/TTEs keep proper watch on the passengers' entering/detraining from the coaches.
3. FIR forms are made available with the Train Guards/Station Masters/ RPF to facilitate the travelling public to lodge their reports immediately.

4. Sharing of Special Intelligence and Crime Intelligence between RPF and the GRP is done at all levels.

5. Announcements are made through Public Address System and CCTV at important railway stations to alert the travelling passengers against any suspicious looking and abandoned objects in trains and Railway premises. Passengers are warned not to touch the suspicious looking articles, but to inform Police/RPF or Railway authorities.

6. RPF sniffer dogs, wherever available, are being deployed at Railway platforms, yards etc. to sniff out explosive substances. RPF men are being trained in the identification and detection of explosive devices.

7. RPF Assistance Posts are provided at important stations to assist passengers in lodging FIRs with Government Railway Police.

8. Periodic high level co-ordination meetings with Government Railway Police and local police are conducted to analyze the crime position with a view to taking suitable preventive measures.

(c) Does not arise.

Rail network in mountainous regions

3845. SHRI LALIT SURI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railways propose to extend the existing railway network in the mountainous regions, beyond Shimla, Darjeeling, Nainital and other places;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) if reply to part (a) is in negative, whether the Railways would now think of extending the railway network beyond the existing hill terminals so as to enable the people of remote mountainous areas to reap the benefits of development in the country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) to (c) At present there is no specific proposal to extend railway lines beyond Shimla and Darjeeling.